Appl. No.: 10/804,657
Amdt. Dated: 2/9/2007

Attorney Docket: IV00-003
Reply to Office action of 01/09/2007

REMARKS

Examiner Manoskey is thanked for the thorough examination of the subject Patent Application. The Claims have been carefully reviewed and amended, and are considered to be in condition for allowance.

5   Reconsideration of the rejection under 35 USC §102(e) of Claims 1-15, 19-21, 23-37, 41-43 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application 2004/016290 (Mangipudi, et al.) is requested in light of the following arguments. Mangipudi, et al. does include servers that are organized into groups referred to a clusters, which are given a priority, on a local area network. Mangipudi, et al. also shows

10   that the backend servers are clustered into virtual cluster groups and the servers multicasting on the network to each other. Mangipudi, et al. has a monitoring processor that monitors workload and availability of servers. Mangipudi, et al. incorporates routing to the servers via MAC address and multicasting packets. Mangipudi, et al. teaches assigning priority to the clusters for based on a class of

15   service to be provided. Finally, Mangipudi, et al. include a routing host that provides a front-end processor in the form of a TCP router configured to receive all client requests for sites and virtual sites implemented on the back-end servers. However, Mangipudi, et al. does not provide:

a plurality of virtual networks, each virtual network comprising a

20   plurality of said computer processing systems, wherein each computer processing system includes at least one neighbor's

31

Appl. No.: 10/804,657
Amdt. Dated: 2/9/2007

Attorney Docket: IV00-003
Reply to Office action of 01/09/2007

listing, each neighbor's listing defining said computer processing

system as a member of one of said plurality of said virtual networks

and virtually connected through a virtual multicast bus to other

member computer processing systems of said virtual network to

5   allow direct and shared communication with the member

processors; and

a configuration service apparatus in communication with each of said

computer processing systems to provide each of said plurality of

computer processing systems with:

10   a neighbor's listing for each of said plurality of virtual networks that

each of said plurality of computer systems is a member

computer system. (Claim 1, Lines 15-31)

said virtual network comprising:

a plurality of nodes, each node comprising at least one computer

15   system cluster designated to be a member of said virtual network,

each computer system cluster comprising at least one of said

computer processing systems;

a virtual multicast bus to provide communication between member

nodes of said virtual network; and

Appl. No.: 10/804,657
Amdt. Dated: 2/9/2007

Attorney Docket: IV00-003
Reply to Office action of 01/09/2007

a configuration service apparatus in communication with each of the

computer systems to provide each of the plurality of computer

systems with:

a neighbor's listing for each of said computer processing systems

5   included in a member node of said virtual network, a separate

neighbor's listing associated with any virtual network included

within said a plurality of clusters; (Claim 23, Lines 4-21)

Mangipudi, et al. provides a facility for varying "classes of service" where

the clusters are divided according the class type. The virtual network of this

10   invention does not distinguish class type but the organizational structure as

shown in Fig. 4a. The "any-to-any" structure of the network connected computer

system processors is then virtually reorganized to form the virtual networks. The

structure of the "virtual network" is established by the "configuration service

apparatus" with a "neighbor's list" being promulgated by the "configuration

15   service apparatus" through the "virtual multicast bus" that connects the members

of the "virtual network" essentially directly together according to the network

structure.

New Claims 45-66 are added to claim a method for forming a virtual

network within a plurality of clusters of computer processing systems

20   interconnected by a physical network to allow each computer processing system

of the clusters of computer processing systems to transfer data between any of

the plurality of computer systems.

Appl. No.: 10/804,657
Amdt. Dated: 2/9/2007

Attorney Docket: IV00-003
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The related art references made of record and not relied upon have been reviewed and it is agreed that they do not suggest the present detailed claimed invention.

Reconsideration of the objection to Claims 16-18, 22, 38-40, and 44 for being dependent upon rejected claims is requested in light of the following argument. The Applicant acknowledges that Claims 16-18, 22, 38-40, and 44 would be allowable if rewritten independent form. The applicant believes that the independent claims on which Claims 16-18, 22, 38-40, and 44 are dependent are now allowable and respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance for all claims be issued in this case.

It is requested that should Examiner Manoskey not find that the Claims are now allowable, that the undersigned be called at (845) 452-5863 to overcome any problems preventing allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,
Saile Ackerman LLC

Billy J. Knowles, Reg. No. 42,752